fixed is as under:—

(in million tonnes)

Year	Coal Production (in	
	Target	Actual
1985-86 . .	154.50	154.20
1986-87 . .	166.80	165.79
1987-88 . . .	183.50	179.72
1988-89 . . .	196.28	194.60
1989-90 . . .	209.50	200.89

(b) The country's coal demand in 1992-93, as assessed by the Planning Commission, is estimated at 254.50 million tonnes (excluding 5.30 million tonnes of middlings). The country's coal production target for 1992-93 has been fixed at 238.20 million tonnes. The gap, if any, between demand materialisation and production is proposed to be met by drawal from pithead stocks and in case of coking coal for steel plants by imports for blending purposes.

/ (c) Steps taken to augment coal production *inter alia* include opening of new mines, modernisation of existing mines, application of new technologies to achieve maximum results and ensuring timely avilability of inputs and infrastructural facilities.

(d) and (e) The Eighth Five Year Plan (1992-97) is yet to be finalised by the Planning Commission. However, the Planning Commission have approved a coal production plan of 238.20 million tonnes for the country for 1992-93, the first year of the Eighth Plan. The Planning Commission have also approved an investment plan of Rs. 2282 crores for the coal sector for 1992-93.

Discontinuation of coal linkage to Gujarat Power Projects

403 SHRI VITHALBHAI M. PATEL: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that coal linkage to Gujarat power stations and industries, is going to be discontinued from the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what alternative energy linkage will be provided to Gujarat after discontinuing linkage of coal to power stations?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. MYAMAGOUDA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Adequate and timely supply of coal to Power Stations

404. DR. ABRAR AHMED: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state what measures are being taken by Government to ensure adequate and timely supply of coal to Power Stations of the country during the current financial year?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): Supply of coal to power utilities is being given priority over all other sectors. Their coal requirements are linked with the sources of supply for each quarter of the year by Standing Linkage Committee for Power Sectors (Short Term). Supplies during the quarter are made in accordance with these linkages. The despatches are monitored on daily basis and corrective steps are taken, whenever necessary, to ensure regular supplies.

कोयला उद्योग का आंशिक रूप से निजीकरण किया जाना

405. श्री अजीत जोगी :
कुमारी आलिया :

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या कोयले के मूल्यों में वृद्धि करने का कोई प्रस्ताव सरकारके विचाराधीन है ;

(ख) क्या इस प्रस्तावित वृद्धि और कोयला उद्योग के आंशिक रूप से गैर-सरकारीकरण का कोई परस्पर संबंध है ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि इस संबंध में सरकार को किसी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय एजेंसी से कोई सुझाव या सिफारिशें प्राप्त हुई हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उप-मंत्री (श्री एस० बी० नयमेगौड़ा) : (क) यह प्रतीत होता है कि इस प्रश्न का संबंध कोयले के उत्पादन में वृद्धि किए जाने से है । आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना और इस योजना के अंतर्गत कोयले के उत्पादन लक्ष्यों को अभी अंतिम रूप दिया जाना है । किंतु आठवीं पंचवर्षीय योजना के अंतिम वर्ष में कोयले के उत्पादन का 306 मि० टन प्रक्षेपण किया गया है ।

(ख) जी नहीं ।

(ग) जी, नहीं । कोयला मंत्रालय को इस संबंध में किसी भी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय अभिकरण से कोई सुझाव अथवा सिफारिश प्राप्त नहीं हुई है ।

(घ) प्रश्न ही नहीं उठता ।

कोयला उद्योग में नियोजित श्रमिक बल की छंटनी

406. **श्री अजीत जोगी :**
कुमारी आलिया :

क्या कोयला मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार कोयला उद्योग में श्रमिकों की छंटनी करने का विचार रखती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है तथा कितने श्रमिकों की छंटनी किए जाने की संभावना है ;

(ग) क्या सरकार उन्हें अन्य क्षेत्रों में रोजगार देने का विचार रखती है ; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है ?

कोयला मंत्रालय में उपमंत्री (श्री एस०बी० नयमेगौड़ा : (क) जी, नहीं

(ख) से (घ) प्रश्न हीं नहीं उठता ।

Award to an officer of eastern coalfields

407. SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWAMY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 3830 given in the Rajya Sabha on 26th March, 1992 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an officer of Eastern Coalfields devised a capsule to rescue the miners in Mahabir Colliery accident in November, 1989;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the said officer instead of being suitably awarded/rewarded for his extra-ordinary work, has been posted at a place where there is not much use of his talent; and

(c) whether Government propose to promote the said officer belatedly for his extra-ordinary act of rescuing a large number of Miners; and

(d) whether Government propose to reward the said officer, if so, the details in this regard?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI S. B. NYAMAGOUDA): (a) to (d) The capsule to rescue the miners in Mahabir Colliery accident in November, 1989 was not devised by an officer of ECL but was fabricated in the ECL workshop on the basis of a design furnished by a visiting professor of Indian School of Mines. An officer of ECL only offered to go down in the capsule for rescuing the trapped miners. This officer was later posted as General Manager (Rescue) in ECL, so that his talents could be best utilised. He was also subsequently promoted to the next rank. He was awarded 'Sarbottam Jivan Raksha Medal' by the President of India.

408. [*Transferred to the 8th May*, 1992]